25. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 24 which comprises a nucleotide sequence which encodes a polypeptide comprising at least 150 contiguous amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO:2.

26. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 25 which comprises a nucleotide sequence which encodes a polypeptide comprising at least 300 contiguous amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO:2.

27. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising at least 400 nucleotides and which hybridizes to the complement of the nucleic acid molecule consisting of SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:3 under conditions of incubation at 45°C in 6.0 X SSC followed by washing in 0.2 X SSC, 0.1% SDS at 50°C.

28. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising at least 400 nucleotides and which hybridizes to the complement of the nucleic acid molecule consisting of SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:3 under conditions of incubation at 45°C in 6.0 X SSC followed by washing in 0.2 X SSC, 0.1% SDS at 65°C.

29. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence which encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 from amino acid 71 to 524.

30. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence which encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

31. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

32. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence which is at least 85% identical to the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, wherein the percent identity is determined using the NBLAST program with a score of 100 and a word length of 12.

33. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 36, wherein the nucleotide sequence is at least 95% identical to the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, wherein the percent identity is determined using the NBLAST program with a score of 100 and a word length of 12.

34. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

35. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:3.

36. An isolated nucleic acid molecule consisting essentially of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:3.

37. An isolated nucleic acid molecule consisting of the nucleotide sequence SEQ ID NO:3.

38. A vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule as in any one of claims 24 to 37.

39. The vector of claim 38, which includes nucleic acid sequences which regulate expression of a polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid molecule.

40. A host cell comprising the vector of claim 38.

41. A host cell comprising the vector of claim 39.

42. A host cell comprising the nucleic acid molecule as in any one of claims 24 to 37.

43. The host cell of claim 40 which is a mammalian host cell.

44. The host cell of claim 41 which is a mammalian host cell.

45. The host cell of claim 42 which is a mammalian host cell.

46. A recombinant method for producing an isolated polypeptide comprising culturing the host cell of claim 42 under conditions in which the nucleic acid molecule is expressed. --

REMARKS

Attached is a marked-up version of the changes being made by the current amendment.

Applicant asks that all claims be examined. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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